



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

***Raised Bill No. 5059***

LCO No. 498

\*00498\_\_\_\_\_LAB\*

Referred to Committee on Labor and Public Employees

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL ASSESSORS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2010*) (a) Any town,  
2       consolidated town and city or consolidated town and borough may, by  
3       town or borough meeting vote, or, in those municipalities in which  
4       there is no such meeting, by a two-thirds majority of the members of  
5       the legislative body thereof, provide for the appointment of one or  
6       more but not more than five assessors. Any such municipality may  
7       establish the qualifications and compensation of such assessor or  
8       assessors, and may provide for the appointment by the assessor or  
9       board of assessors of clerical and other assistance within the limits of  
10      the appropriation therefor, provided, if there is more than one  
11      assessor, such assessors shall choose one of their number to be  
12      chairman of the board of assessors.

13      (b) Any assessor appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section  
14      shall be sworn to the faithful performance of his or her duties by the  
15      clerk of the town and shall continue to serve in such office until  
16      removed for good cause.

17       Sec. 2. Section 7-105 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
18       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

19       Each person [elected or] appointed an assessor or elected or  
20       appointed a member of the board of assessment appeals or a collector  
21       of town taxes in any town shall be sworn before entering upon the  
22       duties of the office to which he has been elected or appointed.

23       Sec. 3. Section 9-185 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
24       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

25       Unless otherwise provided by special act or charter, [assessors,]  
26       members of boards of assessment appeals, selectmen, town clerks,  
27       town treasurers, collectors of taxes, constables, registrars of voters,  
28       members of boards of education and library directors shall be elected,  
29       provided any town may, by ordinance, provide for the appointment,  
30       by its chief executive authority, of (1) a constable or constables in lieu  
31       of constables to be elected under section 9-200 or (2) a town clerk, town  
32       treasurer or collector of taxes in lieu of the election of such officers as  
33       provided in section 9-189. Unless otherwise provided by special act or  
34       charter, all other town officers shall be appointed as provided by law  
35       and, if no other provision for their appointment is made by law, then  
36       by (A) the chief executive officer of such municipality, or (B) where the  
37       legislative body is a town meeting, by the board of selectmen, or (C) by  
38       such other appointing authority as a town may by ordinance provide,  
39       and except that, if a board of finance is established under the  
40       provisions of section 7-340, the members thereof shall be elected as  
41       provided in section 9-202. [and except that assessors may be elected or  
42       appointed under the provisions of section 9-198.] Any town may, by a  
43       vote of its legislative body, determine the number of its officers and  
44       prescribe the mode by which they shall be voted for at subsequent  
45       elections.

46       Sec. 4. Section 9-199 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
47       following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):

48 (a) Unless otherwise provided by law, each town shall elect [three  
49 assessors and] a board of assessment appeals consisting of three  
50 members and shall elect such officers at regular municipal elections for  
51 terms of four years. Such [assessors and] members of the board of  
52 assessment appeals shall hold office for the term for which they are  
53 elected and until their successors are elected and have qualified. When  
54 the number of [assessors or the number of] members of the board of  
55 assessment appeals to be elected by any town is even, no person shall  
56 vote for more than one-half the number, and when the number to be  
57 elected is odd, no person shall vote for more than a bare majority of the  
58 number, provided the legislative body of any town may provide that  
59 the electors of such town vote for the full number of [assessors or]  
60 members to be elected thereat, any provision of the special acts to the  
61 contrary notwithstanding. The candidates in number sufficient to fill  
62 such offices who have the highest number of votes shall be elected.  
63 Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the method of  
64 rotation of [assessors or] members of a board of assessment appeals  
65 legally in effect on October 1, 1976.

66 (b) The legislative body of a municipality or, in the case of a  
67 municipality for which the legislative body is a town meeting or a  
68 representative town meeting, the board of selectmen may appoint an  
69 alternate for each member of the board of assessment appeals. Each  
70 alternate member shall be an elector of the municipality. When seated,  
71 an alternate member shall have all the powers and duties of a member  
72 of the board of assessment appeals.

73 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section  
74 or of any special act, municipal charter or home rule ordinance, a  
75 municipality may, by ordinance, authorize its legislative body to  
76 appoint additional members to the board of assessment appeals for  
77 any assessment year.

78 Sec. 5. Section 9-198 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
79 *October 1, 2010*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	7-105
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	9-185
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	9-199
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2010</i>	Repealer section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To remove town assessors from the election statutes and place them in the municipal statutes and to require they be removed only for good cause.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*